

Ref.
**OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE**

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.
Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 163

Suspension of the rules for *Euploea* Fabricius,
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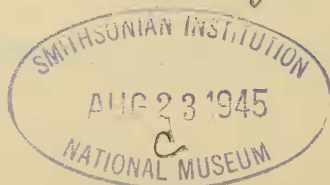
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Ref.

OPINION 163.

SUSPENSION OF THE RULES FOR *EUPLOEA* FABRICIUS, 1807 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER LEPIDOPTERA).

SUMMARY.—Under suspension of the rules *Papilio corus* Fabricius, 1793, is hereby designated as the type of *Euploea* Fabricius, 1807 (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera). The name *Euploea* Fabricius, with the type indicated above, is hereby added to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 611.

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

This case was submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in a letter dated 24th October 1934, in which Commissioner Francis Hemming and Mr. N. D. Riley, Keeper of the Department of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History), jointly invited the Commission to render *Opinions* in regard to this, and certain other, generic names in the Order Lepidoptera (Class Insecta). The passage in that letter relating to the name *Euploea* Fabricius reads as follows :—

We recommend that the following names should be added by the International Commission to the *Official List of Generic Names*. Our reasons for so recommending are fully set out in the statements, the terms of which we have jointly agreed, contained in Hemming's *Generic Names of the Holarctic Butterflies* on the pages noted below :—

Euploea Fab., 1807 (Hemming, *loc. cit.* 1 : 23-25)
.....

2. The following is an extract, from the work referred to above, of the passage relating to this genus :—

EUPLOEA Fabricius

Fabricius, 1807, *Mag. f. Insektenk.* (Illiger) 6 : 280
Crotch, 1872, *Cistula ent.* 1 : 66
Scudder, 1875, *Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts Sci.*, Boston 10 : 172
Butler, 1878, *J. linn. Soc. Lond.* (Zool.) 14 : 291
Moore, 1883, *Proc. zool. Soc. London* 1883 : 288
Hampson, 1918, *Novit. Zool.*, Tring 25 : 385

TYPE : *Papilio corus* Fab., 1793

Fabricius said that there were thirty-two species in this genus and mentioned three by name, viz. *plexippus* Linn., *similis* Linn. and *corus* Fab. Crotch's selection of *eunice* God. as the type is invalid, as that is not one of

the Fabrician species. The type was validly fixed by Scudder as *similis* Linn. In 1878 Butler selected as the type *core* Cram., 1780, but quite apart from Scudder's earlier selection of *similis* Linn., this selection by Butler would have been invalid, as *core* Cram. is not one of the three species originally given by Fabricius, though Butler thought that it was, as he wrongly considered that *corus* Fab. (one of the original species) was a synonym of *core* Cram. In 1883, Moore rectified this misidentification and selected *corus* Fab. as the type. This selection falls to the ground, as does that by Hampson in 1918 of *plexippus* Linn., in view of Scudder's earlier selection of *similis* Linn.

Thus, under a strict interpretation of the International Code, the name *Euploea* Fab., though nomenclatorially valid, is not required, as it is a synonym of *Danaus* Kluk, 1802, the types of the two genera (*similis* Linn. and *plexippus* Linn.) being congeneric. The species hitherto referred to *Euploea* Fab. would require to be transferred to *Trepsichrois* Hübn. It is difficult to imagine a more unsatisfactory result or one less acceptable to lepidopterists generally. The genus *Euploea* Fab., as usually understood (i.e. the generic name of *corus* Fab. and its allies) is one of the largest and best known of all the genera of Rhopalocera. The immense majority of the species concerned, some 150 in number, was originally described as belonging to the genus *Euploea* Fab., and an enormous literature has grown up around this name. To upset all this for the sake of maintaining the fixation, as type, of *similis* Linn. by Scudder in 1875, in preference to the selection of *corus* Fab. by Moore in 1883, would, in my view, serve no useful purpose whatever, I should, indeed, regard it as a definitely retrograde step.

The position is, therefore, that a strict application of the International Code would :—

- (a) sink *Euploea* Fab. as a synonym of *Danaus* Kluk, a genus with which the name has hardly ever been associated, although in 1875 Scudder unfortunately selected a Danaine (*Papilio similis* Linn., 1758) as its type; and
- (b) deprive *Papilio corus* Fab., 1793, and its very numerous congeners of the generic name *Euploea* Fab., by which they have almost universally been known since its establishment by Fabricius in 1807 and under which the great majority were first described.

I am of the opinion :—

- (i) that it would be highly undesirable to disturb the universally accepted use of the name *Euploea* Fab., 1807, for *Papilio corus* Fab., 1793, and its congeners, by transferring them to the genus *Trepsichrois* Hübn., 1816; and
- (ii) that the strict application of the rules of the International Code in this case would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity.

3. In the work from which the foregoing is an extract, Commissioner Hemming went on to say that, jointly with Mr. N. D. Riley, he was submitting to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature a recommendation that, in the exercise of the plenary power conferred upon them by the International Zoological Congress, the Commission should as soon as possible take the steps laid down by the Congress for the promulgation of an *Opinion* to the following effect :—

The name *Euploea* Fab., 1807, is hereby added to the *Official List of Generic Names*. In view of the sense in which this name has been almost universally used ever since its publication by Fabricius, the type of *Euploea* Fab. shall be deemed to be *Papilio corus* Fab., 1793, which was specified as such by Moore in 1883 (*Proc. zool. Soc. London* 1883 : 288), notwithstanding the earlier selection of *Papilio similis* Linn., 1758, by Scudder in 1875 (*Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts Sci.*, Boston 10 : 172).

4. Commissioner Hemming added that he was so impressed with the importance of this matter that he had thought it desirable in the work from which the above passages have been extracted to anticipate what he hoped would be the decision of the International Commission. He therefore treated *Papilio corus* Fabricius, 1793, as the type of *Euploea* Fabricius, 1807.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE.

5. As a first step the Commission decided to invite the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature to report on the present application. This case was accordingly considered by the International Committee at their meeting held at Madrid in the second week of September 1935 during the Sixth International Congress of Entomology. After careful consideration, the Committee agreed to recommend that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should take such action under their plenary powers as might be necessary to secure that the type of *Euploea* Fabricius, 1807, should be *Papilio corus* Fabricius, 1793.

6. This, and other, recommendations adopted by the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature at their Madrid meeting were confirmed by the Sixth International Congress of Entomology at the Concilium Plenum held on 12th September 1935.

III.—THE CONCLUSION REACHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION.

7. When the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature met at Lisbon immediately after the close of the Sixth International Congress of Entomology in September 1935, they found themselves confronted with a large number of cases involving proposals for the suspension of the rules, in respect of some of which advertisements had not been published or, if published, had not been published for the prescribed period, owing to the illness of Dr. C. W. Stiles, Secretary to the Commission, or for other

causes. In these circumstances, the Commission decided at their meeting held on the morning of Monday, 16th September 1935 (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 9) that immediate consideration should be given to all cases submitted to the Commission that, in their judgment, had reached the stage at which a decision could properly be taken; that the By-Laws of the Commission should be suspended during the Lisbon Session to such extent as might be necessary to give effect to this decision; and that, in so far as this procedure involved taking decisions "under suspension of the rules" in cases where the prescribed advertisement procedure had not been complied with, the cases in question should be duly advertised as soon as might be practicable after the conclusion of the Lisbon Congress and that no *Opinion* should be rendered and published thereon until after the expiry of a period of one year from the date on which the said advertisement was despatched to the prescribed journals for publication. The case of the name *Euploea* Fabricius, 1807, was one of the cases in question and was accordingly dealt with by the Commission under the above procedure.

8. This case was considered by the International Commission later in the course of the meeting referred to above (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 22¹), when it was agreed:—

- (a) to "suspend the rules" in the case of the following generic names:—
 - (i) *Euploea* Fabricius, 1807, *Mag. f. Insektenk.* (Illiger) 6 : 280
- (b) to declare that the type of *Euploea* Fabricius, 1807, is *Papilio corus* Fabricius, 1793, *Ent. syst.* 3 (1) : 41;
 - (i) to add the generic names *Euploea* Fabricius, 1807. . . . to the *Official List of Generic Names*, with the types indicated above;
 - (l) to render *Opinions* in the sense of (a) to (l) above.

9. The foregoing decisions were embodied in paragraph 28 of the report² which at their meeting held on the morning of Wednesday, 18th September 1935, the Commission (Lisbon Session, 5th Meeting, Conclusion 6) unanimously agreed to submit to the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology. That report was unanimously approved by the Section on Nomenclature at its joint meeting with the International Commission held on the afternoon of the same day. It was thereupon submitted to the

¹ Only those portions of Conclusion 22 which refer to the present case are here quoted. For the full text of Conclusion 22, see 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 20-23.

² See 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 60-61.

Twelfth International Congress of Zoology by which it was unanimously approved and adopted at the Concilium Plenum held on the afternoon of Saturday, 21st September 1935, the last day of the Congress.

10. In accordance with the decision taken by the Commission at Lisbon in regard to their procedure at that Session (paragraph 7 above), this case was duly advertised in 1936 in two or more of the journals named in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913, by which the said International Congress conferred upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity.³ In the period that has elapsed since the advertisement in the said journals of the possible suspension of the rules in the present case, no communication of any kind has been addressed to the International Commission objecting to the issue of an *Opinion* in the terms proposed.

11. The present *Opinion* was concurred in by the twelve (12) Commissioners and Alternates present at the Lisbon Session of the International Commission, namely :—

Commissioners :—Calman; Hemming; Jordan; Pellegrin; Peters; and Stejneger.

Alternates :—do Amaral *vice* Cabrera; Ohshima *vice* Esaki; Bradley *vice* Stone; Beier *vice* Handlirsch; Arndt *vice* Richter; and Mortensen *vice* Apstein.

12. The present *Opinion* was dissented from by no Commissioner or Alternate present at the Lisbon Session. Nor since that Session has any Commissioner who was neither present on that occasion or represented thereat by an Alternate indicated disagreement with the conclusions then reached by the Commission in this matter.

13. The following five (5) Commissioners who were not present at Lisbon nor represented thereat by Alternates did not vote on the present *Opinion* :—

Bolivar y Pieltain; Chapman; Fantham; Silvestri; and Stiles.

³ See Declaration 5 (1943, *Opinions and Declarations rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature* 1 : 31-40).

14. At the time when the vote was taken on the present *Opinion*, there was one (1) vacancy in the Commission consequent upon the death of Commissioner Horváth.

IV.—AUTHORITY FOR THE ISSUE OF THE PRESENT *OPINION*.

WHEREAS the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held in Monaco in March 1913, adopted a Resolution conferring upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case, where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity, provided that not less than one year's notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the said case should be given in two or more of five journals named in the said Resolution, and provided that the vote in the Commission was unanimously in favour of the proposed suspension of the rules; and

WHEREAS the suspension of the rules is required to give valid force to the provisions of the present *Opinion* as set out in the summary thereof; and

WHEREAS not less than one year's notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the present case has been given to two or more of the journals referred to in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held in Monaco in March 1913; and

WHEREAS the vote in the Commission at their Lisbon Session was unanimously in favour of the issue of an *Opinion* in the terms of the present *Opinion*;

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon me in that behalf by reason of holding the said Office of Secretary to the International Commission, hereby announce the said *Opinion* on behalf of the International Commission, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, and direct that it be rendered and printed as *Opinion* Number One Hundred and Sixty Three (*Opinion* 163) of the said Commission.

In faith whereof I, the undersigned FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, have signed the present *Opinion*.

DONE in London, this tenth day of June, Nineteen Hundred and Forty Three, in a single copy, which shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature.*

FRANCIS HEMMING

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

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Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature.

This journal has been established by the International Commission as their Official Organ in order to provide a medium for the publication of :—

- (a) proposals on zoological nomenclature submitted to the International Commission for deliberation and decision ;
- (b) comments received from, and correspondence by the Secretary with, zoologists on proposals published in the *Bulletin* under (a) above ; and
- (c) papers on nomenclatorial implications of developments in taxonomic theory and practice.

The *Bulletin* was established in 1943, in which year three Parts were published. Part 4 was published in 1944. Parts 5 and 6 are in the press.

Opinions and Declarations Rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

The above work is being published in three volumes concurrently, namely :—

Volume 1. This volume will contain *Declarations* 1-9 (which have never previously been published) and *Opinions* 1-133 (the original issue of which is now out of print). Parts 1-20 (containing *Declarations* 1-9 and *Opinions* 1-11) have now been published. Further Parts will be published shortly.

Volume 2. This volume will be issued in 52 Parts, comprising all the decisions taken by the International Commission at their meeting at Lisbon in 1935, namely *Declarations* 10-12 (with Roman pagination) and *Opinions* 134-181 (with Arabic pagination). Part 52 will contain the index and title page of the volume. Parts 1-35, containing *Declarations* 10-12 and *Opinions* 134-165, have now been published. Further Parts will be published shortly.

Volume 3. This volume, which commenced with *Opinion* 182, will contain the *Opinions* adopted by the International Commission since their meeting at Lisbon in 1935. Parts 1-5 (containing *Opinions* 182-186) have now been published. Further Parts will be published as soon as possible.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The International Commission appeal earnestly to all institutions and individuals interested in the development of zoological nomenclature to contribute, according to their means, to the Commission's Special (Publications) Fund. Of the total sum of £1,800 required to enable the Commission to issue all the publications now awaiting printing, donations amounting to £819 8s. 7d. were received up to 31st December 1944. Additional contributions are urgently needed in order to enable the Commission to continue their work without interruption. Contributions of any amount, however small, will be most gratefully received.

Contributions should be sent to the International Commission at their Publications Office, 41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W. 7, and made payable to the "International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature or Order" and crossed "Account payee. Coutts & Co."

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